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Regular Meeting, May 19 1959

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Torrance, California  
May 19, 1959

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, May 19, 1959, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Benstead. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mrs. Jean Gerald led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Hugh Percy of St. Andrews Episcopal Church opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilman Benstead joined the meeting at 5:33 P. M.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council held May 12, 1959, as written.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, no objections, so ordered.

BIDS:

1. Mayor Isen announced the following: Informal bids for office and drafting furniture for the Public Works Department were opened in the Council Chamber at 1:00 P. M. Monday, May 18, 1959.

HEARINGS:

1. Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for: Weed Abatement Hearing #4 (5th Group of Parcels), on Resolution No. 3677, Declaring Public Nuisance, to hear any and all property owners having any objections to the proposed removal of weeds and rubbish from property listed in Resolution of Intention No. 3677, and incorporating the list of properties in these Minutes by reference.

City Clerk Bartlett presented the Affidavit of Posting.

Councilman Benstead moved this be received and filed.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Drale reported he had heard of several cases where people felt the lots were not posted.

In reply to this, Director of Public Works Peebles said the Affidavit was signed, although he had not made a personal check of this.

Mayor Isen asked if anyone present wished to be heard.

There was no reply.

Councilman Benstead moved to close the Hearing.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn moved that after the Clerk had given a number to, and read title of, any ordinance or resolution on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived; reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilman the right to demand the reading of any such ordinance or resolution in regular order.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The City Clerk did assign numbers and read titles to the ordinances and resolutions shown hereafter in these Minutes.

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RESOLUTION NO. 3683

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIS REPRESENTATIVES AND EMPLOYEES TO ABATE THE NUISANCE LOCATED ON PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE DESCRIBED IN RESOLUTION NO. 3677.

Councilman Beasley moved to adopt Resolution No. 3683.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At this time, Mayor Isen welcomed Mr. Curry, the publisher of the Redondo Beach Daily Breeze, into the meeting.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A letter from the Public Utilities Commission, signed by R. J. Pajalich, Secretary, advised the Council of the circumstances concerning the Crossing Protection Fund and the present status of our request for an allocation in connection with protection at the crossing of Arlington Avenue and the AT&SF Railway.

The City Attorney, in reply to a question, said this letter was here for information only and that no action was required.

There were no objections, and this was ordered filed.

2. A May 11, 1959, letter from Mrs. Wm. D. Truair submitted an article about work for teen-agers, and asked that the City help with such a program here.

Councilman Beasley moved to refer this to the Recreation Department.

Councilman Jahn was afraid that if this was referred to them, they would think the Council wanted them to do something about it, and he felt this would only raise our costs and taxes. He felt this was the sort of thing some civic group should take up.

Councilman Beasley amended his motion to make the referral to Recreation for information only.

Councilman Jahn moved a substitute motion, to file the letter.

Substitute motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Bradford, Drale, Jahn. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Isen suggested that the letter be sent to Recreation for filing.

Councilman Jahn said he would not object to that, but he did not feel a program such as this was a City function.

Councilman Beasley felt the Recreation Commission would consider this discussion when they saw the letter.

Mayor Isen directed the City Clerk to send a copy of the letter and the action and discussion of the Council on it to the Recreation Department.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

1. With a letter dated May 14, 1959, the City Manager submitted the following recommendations for the Council's consideration and approval:

EXPENDITURES:

1. For the purchase of a Toro Greens Mower, the sum of \$400 plus tax. The Toro Co. was the low bidder on the item, bid summary attached. (Budget item).



APPROPRIATIONS FROM UNAPPROPRIATED RESERVE:

1. For construction of drainage system on Portobello Drive, the sum of \$6,000 (supporting letter submitted).
2. For completion of overhead crane runway at the City Yard, the sum of \$600 (supporting letter submitted).

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR REMODELING AND IMPROVEMENT OF POLICE BLDG.:

It is recommended that consideration be given to rejecting all bids on this project and the City proceed with the construction by force account. Under such a plan we would buy all material on bid and would hire the skilled labor from the Union Halls (supporting letter submitted).

MEETINGS:

The Chamber of Commerce would like to have a dinner meeting with the Council after the Council meeting of June 2, 1959, for Budget discussion.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the City Manager on all those items requiring approval.

Councilman Beasley asked that one of the items, under "AWARD OF CONTRACT. etc.," be withheld.

Councilman Drale amended his motion, to concur with the City Manager on the item under Expenditures and the two items under Appropriations from the Unappropriated Reserve.

Councilman Benstead referred to the runway at the City Yard, asking what size those rails will be and what Mr. Peebles meant by the term 'beam rails'.

Mr. Peebles said they are beams for the handling of the sweeper brooms in the City Yard. They will be about 6" I-beams.

Councilman Benstead asked why we could not erect this steel ourselves.

Mr. Peebles said we will erect it.

Councilman Benstead said the letter did not say that, and Mr. Peebles said there is a small amount of welding we will have to get done.

Councilman Jahn seconded Councilman Drale's motion, which carried unanimously by roll call vote.

On the Award of Contract for Remodeling and Improvement of Police Building, Councilman Beasley pointed out that the Director of Public Works and the City Manager did not make the same recommendation, and he was not sure which of them was right.

City Manager Stevens said we had received estimates on this job and were about to start it, when it was brought out that this would have to be bid on, as it is for more than \$2,000; according to the estimate, we can do the job for about half the low bid of \$10,000; he said he had submitted his own recommendation here only for the Council's consideration.

Councilman Beasley moved to reject all bids and proceed on the construction by force account.

Councilman Jahn asked who had given us the \$5,000 price, and the City Manager said there had been a Budget appropriation for this job in that amount. The Chief had been given the price by a carpenter; it was on the plans that man had submitted that we had gone to bid.

Mayor Isen asked if there was any way we could get a bid on the labor from that same man.

Councilman Jahn asked when the estimate was taken, and the City Manager said it was 2 or 3 months ago.

Councilman Jahn thought prices had risen since then, and said he wondered if we could do this for the price; he said he would like to see more of a breakdown or a schematic of this.

Mayor Isen asked if the man who had estimated this at \$5,000 was a licensed contractor, and Assistant Chief of Police Porter said he was.

Councilman Jahn added he would like to know more about this.

The motion and second were withdrawn, and Mayor Isen ordered this held for a week for further consideration.

The City Manager said we had received bids on this.

Mayor Isen said they had not been rejected, this has only been held over for a week.

The City Attorney said it would be legal for the Council to reject all bids and for the City to do the work.

Mayor Isen asked the Attorney to submit this to the Council next week, in writing.

#### MEETINGS:

Councilman Benstead said this meeting for discussion of the Budget was a business meeting and should be held here.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen directed that this discussion be held here, and asked the City Manager to put this on the Agenda as the last item on June 2, and to advise the Chamber that after that meeting the Council would be glad to go to dinner with them.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY:

1. With a letter dated May 15, 1959, the City Attorney submitted to the Council a quitclaim deed dated May 12, 1959, from V. E. Noble, relinquishing all right, title and interest in the property priorly leased to Noble pursuant to that certain Airport Hangar Lease dated March 27, 1956.

Councilman Beasley moved this be accepted.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

2. With a letter dated May 12, 1959, the City Attorney submitted a letter on the subject of PENDING LEGISLATION. The items listed were:

A.C.A. 38, Public Works Financing,

S. C. A. 19, Assessment of Property Used for Airport Purposes,

S.C.A. 20, Assessment of Public Lands,

S.B. 1115, Holmdahl (local government),

A.B. 2680, Rees et al.

In the letter, the City Attorney made his recommendations on these matters by analysis.

3. In a letter dated May 14, 1959, label Memo #III, subject Pending Legislation, the City attorney submitted analyses and recommendations on:

A.B. 156, Application of City Zoning Ordinances to School Districts,

A.B. 2647, Repeal of the Uninhabited Annexation Act,

A.B. 158, Mandatory Exemption from City License Taxes of all State Licensed Contractors,

A.B. 487, Taxing Possessory Interests in Tax Exempt Personal Property.

In reply to a question from Councilman Jahn, the City Attorney said the matter referring to gas tax was simply for a redistribution, and not a tax increase.

Concerning 1, 2, and 3 of Item number 2 above, Councilman Beasley moved the City Manager prepare letters as has been done before to be sent to the pertinent people by the Councilmen.

Councilman Drale objected to #1, and asked for a roll call on it, with reference to application of zoning to school districts.

Councilman Jahn asked to discuss the letter number '2' first, and it was agreed to do so.

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Mayor Isen asked if there were any objections to A.C.A. 38, S.C.A. 19, S.C.A. 20, S.B. 1115, or A.B. 2680, and the recommendations made on them in Letter 2.

There was no reply.

Mayor Isen asked the City Attorney if the letters mentioned in the motion should be over the individual signatures of the Councilmen, and the City Attorney said he believed it would be more efficacious to have the letters over their signatures as the Council. He said he would have the letters prepared.

Councilman Beasley said he would change his motion.

The motion was lost for lack of a second.

Councilman Jahn moved Resolutions be prepared covering the items in the letter numbered J-2 on this Agenda, in line with the recommendations

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Concerning the letter numbered J-3 on this Agenda, Councilman Beasley moved that Resolutions be prepared agreeing with all the recommendations on the items listed in this letter, namely, A.B. 156, A.B. 2647, A.B. 158 and A.B. 487.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, with Councilman Drale saying he wished to vote "NO" on A.B. 156, and that was ordered shown in the Minutes.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

##### ENGINEERING MATTERS:

- a. Final Tract Map No. 21517: Transmittal form from Department of Public Works, submitting for final approval Tract Map No. 21517, located southerly of Tract 14838, on 230th St. from Arlington Ave. to Walnut St., consisting of 80 lots, presented by Ashewood Development Co. (John E. Kettler). Attached to this were:
- 1) May 14 letter from G. C. Powell, Planning Director, submitting Commission recommendation for approval;
  - 2) Excerpt, Planning Comm. Mins. of Jan. 21, 1959, and Dec. 3, 1958;
  - 3) Jan. 20, 1959, letter from Assistant to City Engr., re conformance with Tentative Map and City requirements;
  - 4) Oct. 2, 1958, letter from Sou. Calif. Edison Co., re poling plan of tract;
  - 5) Aug. 7, 1958, letter from Plng. Director re oil wells in tract boundaries;
  - 6) Sketch of Tract.

Councilman Jahn moved the tract be approved with all conditions. Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Beasley asked the City Attorney if we have an ordinance requiring the subdivider to put in street lights, and the City Attorney said we have. As the City Attorney was vague about the date of adoption of that requirement, the Mayor asked him to look that up and give the information to Councilman Beasley.

Councilman Jahn asked that the Minutes show his motion specified that water is to be served by Torrance Municipal Water Dist. #3.

Councilman Drale accepted that in the second to the motion.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

b. With a letter dated May 14, 1959, the Director of Public Works and Acting City Engineer submitted an easement deed dated May 12, 1959, granted for the widening of 235th St. and Pennsylvania Ave. by Micanovich, L'Amoreaux, et al (portion of Lot 41 in Tract No. 588).

Councilman Beasley moved the easement be accepted.  
Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

MATTERS PERTAINING TO STREET DEPARTMENT:

With a letter dated May 6, 1959, the Director of Public Works reported that bids had been opened for Palmyra Fiber and Gutter Wire on May 6, and 1959, and recommended that:

The low bidder, California Brush Co. of Los Angeles, be awarded the contract in the amount of \$1,716.34.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation from the Director of Public Works.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 3684

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, MAJOR GENERAL JOHN L. MILLS AND LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES T. HOLLEY FOR THE INVITATION EXTENDED TO CITY REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE AIR POWER DEMONSTRATION MAY 4 AND 5, 1959.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 3684.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead requested that copies of the Resolution, signed and sealed, be sent to the persons named in it, and it was so ordered.

RESOLUTION NO. 3685

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST A QUIT-CLAIM DEED TO ITS INTEREST IN LOT P-6, TORRANCE TRACT, TO TORRANCE ROD AND GUN CLUB.

Councilman Drale moved to adopt Resolution No. 3685.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 3686

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT WEEDS GROWING UPON AND IN FRONT OF, AND RUBBISH, REFUSE AND DIRT UPON AND IN FRONT OF CERTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTY IN THE CITY ARE A PUBLIC NUISANCE, AND DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT THEREOF.

Councilman Benstead moved to adopt Resolution No. 3686.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley, and carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jahn said he was relying on Mr. Carleson to see that some of these lots are checked; he had spoken to Mr. Carleson about the lots he meant.

Mr. Carleson said they would be.

Councilman Jahn thanked him, saying some of them, to his certain knowledge, had no weeds on them.

Councilman Beasley asked Mr. Peebles if any policy has been set about the hilly sections of the City, and Mr. Peebles said he has a letter about that problem on its way to the City Manager now.

Councilman Bradford had a question; he said he knew about his own lots, and for the price he had paid last year, the City had done nothing. He would clean the property he owns himself this year. Adjacent to his property, however, is a City-owned parkway and the City did not clean it. He believed that if the property owner maintains the ground, the City should clean their property.

Mayor Isen said someone has brought a change before the Legislature which would ask that the alleys be cleaned under an assessment district, making the owners of abutting property pay for the cleaning of them.

Councilman Bradford said his property he is talking about has not been posted.

The City Attorney explained that it would not be until the Resolution covering it has been passed.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3687

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING THAT WEEDS GROWING UPON AND IN FRONT OF, AND RUBBISH, REFUSE AND DIRT UPON AND IN FRONT OF CERTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTY IN THE CITY ARE A PUBLIC NUISANCE, AND DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT THEREOF.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3687.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried by roll call vote as follows: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Bradford returned to the matter of alleys, and the City Attorney said the Legislature is studying the problem of including alleys in the Weed Abatement Act.

Councilman Beasley, Mayor Isen said, had made a similar request to the City Attorney.

The City Attorney said the matter is before the Legislature now.

Councilman Bradford said at least 60% of the rubbish in the alleys is there because of the carelessness of the City's men in picking it up; he suggested we correct this before penalizing any citizens.

#### ORDINANCES:

1. With a letter dated May 13, 1959, the City Clerk submitted for its second reading Ordinance No. 1090, which was unanimously approved with all Councilmen present when it was first read on May 12, 1959.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1090

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 17.75 AND 17.76 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" LIMITING HOURS OF PARKING IN THE BUSINESS DISTRICT AND THE CENTRAL TRAFFIC DISTRICT AND SUBSTITUTING THEREFOR A NEW SECTION 17.75 REGARDING ALL POSTED LIMITED PARKING AREAS IN THE CITY.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 1090 at its second and final reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.



2. With a letter dated April 23, 1959, from the Planning Director, there was resubmitted for its first reading a proposed M-2 Ordinance, recommended for adoption by the Planning Commission. At the meeting of May 12, 1959, the Council had voted to hold this over for study.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1091

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" ENTITLED "LAND USE ORDINANCE", TO PROVIDE ZONING REGULATIONS FOR M-2 HEAVY MANUFACTURING DISTRICT.

Councilman Jahn moved to approve Ordinance No. 1091 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Councilman Drale did not believe we should allow explosives or fireworks to be made in the City.

It was agreed by the other Councilmen that this was not desirable.

Councilman Bradford protested that Union Carbide anticipates an expansion program for the manufacture of hydrogen, which he pointed out is used as an explosive.

Councilman Beasley said it is very explosive. He believed they would have to come to the City to get permission for such a program.

Councilman Jahn asked if the plans have been submitted, but there was no audible reply.

Councilman Blount did not think the Ordinance would restrict that plan.

Councilman Bradford said gasoline is explosive.

Councilman Drale said that was not defined and he did not think it consistent.

Councilman Bradford said that was the basis for his objections.

Motion for approval carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Blount, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Bradford. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At this time, Councilman Bradford said our Ordinances are written up too loosely, and mentioned again the uses mentioned above.

The City Attorney said they could continue as they are, in all likelihood, under a Non-conforming Use Permit.

3. Councilman Jahn asked the Assistant Chief of Police if the 'Stop' sign recommended at Border and Doble had been 'lost', and Mr. Porter said he did not know. Councilman Jahn said it had been recommended, and Mayor Isen directed that a check be made.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1092

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 17.35 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Drale moved to approve Ordinance No. 1092 at its first reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Bradford, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Beasley, Benstead, Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Blount said he would continue to vote against these traffic ordinances until we returned to the Council policy of showing the cost of the various items.

Mayor Isen agreed that they should be shown henceforth.

ORDINANCE NO. 1093

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING A CERTAIN BUS LOADING ZONE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 17.99 OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954".

Councilman Jahn moved for approval of Ordinance No. 1093 at its first reading.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn asked about the oil well ordinance, and the City Attorney replied that it will be before the Council at their next meeting. A meeting has been held with representatives of the oil industry, as suggested by the Council, and at that meeting it was decided to clarify the meaning of the ordinance somewhat. The City Attorney said he had sent to Orange County to get a copy of their ordinance on this, and has received it.

Councilman Drale left the Council Chamber at 6:10 P. M.

Councilman Benstead expressed concern lest the oil well ordinance be 'written' by the oil companies, but the Mayor and Councilman Beasley, both of whom had attended the meeting mentioned by the City Attorney, assured him this was not so. Mayor Isen said this was a strict ordinance, and it is being hurried to get before the Council as it is.

Councilman Beasley said this ordinance has been tightened up.

Councilman Drale returned to the Chamber at 6:11 P. M.

Mayor Isen told the Council that the representatives of the oil companies at the meeting had been most cooperative, and had believed that their principals would immediately begin compliance in full.

At 6:12 P. M., Mayor Isen declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 6:20 P. M.

ADDENDA TO THE AGENDA:

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

3. A May 7, 1959, letter from Lever & Anker, 9008 Wilshire Blvd., who own the property on Torrance Blvd. west of the Little Company of Mary Hospital, asked that the zoning ordinance C-2 be clarified to allow a newspaper publishing plant in that zone.

Submitted with this letter was a May 8, 1959, memo from George C. Powell, Planning Director, addressed to the City Manager and saying that lithography and publishing are allowed in C-2 zones in Pasadena, San Bernardino, and that in Pasadena newspaper plants are specifically permitted in a C-2 zone. The letter discussed this at some length, and reported that in a C-1 Zone, printing shops are specifically permitted, and that C-2 zone permits all uses permitted in a C-1 zone, as well as provisions for 'light manufacturing incidental to the retail sale of products..'. .

Submitted with these two letters was a proposed URGENCY ORDINANCE to allow this use.

Mayor Isen asked if a regular ordinance would follow this if the urgency measure is adopted, and the City Attorney said it would.

Councilman Blount asked why we had to write a whole 4-page ordinance when one sentence would do what we needed done.

The City Attorney said it is a general rule of Municipal Law; if we did not do this, anyone reading the Code would be almost unable to figure out the meaning of the ordinance.



Councilman Bradford said this was too expensive.  
Councilman Blount agreed, saying he did not think this was a good idea.

The City Attorney said he was afraid it would be invalid if we did not do it this way.

Councilman Blount said in days past, we have amended ordinances by one sentence.

The City Attorney said he could return to the practice if the Council directed him to do so, but stated that he would oppose it.

Councilman Bradford said the amendment before the Council listed the various things permitted in a C-2 zone; he felt there was a fallacy in it. He said the City Attorney had written this up to say the production of phonograph records from prepared biscuits would be permitted, and then below that the ordinance says no motor exceeding one horsepower could be used, and that the total horsepower should not exceed 5 horsepower. He stated that a record could not be pressed with a 5 HP motor.

The City Attorney pointed out that the ordinance also says, "Light manufacturing incidental to the retail sale of goods from the premises only."

Councilman Bradford said the record pressing is not under 'light manufacturing'.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1094

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AMENDING SECTION 10 ENTITLED "C-2  
GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT" OF APPENDIX I OF  
"THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" TO  
ADD CERTAIN PERMISSIBLE USES THERETO AND  
DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Jahn moved to adopt Urgency Ordinance No. 1094 at its first and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Beasley, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Bradford asked if this was to be an Urgency Ordinance for this one case, and the City Attorney said yes.

Councilman Bradford asked if the Torrance Herald is in a C zone.

The City Attorney said it is.

Councilman Bradford said as long as this property is commercial also, why did we have to bother with this.

Councilman Beasley said the Herald was at its present location before we had a zoning ordinance.

Councilman Bradford said he favors this but he is not in favor of the way ordinances are written here.

The City Attorney explained that changes are made in our Land Use Ordinance as follows: The Planning Commission makes recommendations as to additions, deletions, or other changes, and the Council acts on them. Most of the Land Use Ordinance is very old, and all of these ordinances governing land use are a part of it. He said that he acts only as a draftsman in matters of this nature, writing the ordinances as told to do.

Councilman Bradford said the ordinance here tonight is loose jointed; 10 people could interpret it 10 ways. Things of this nature, all these ordinances should be carefully spelled out to define just what can be done.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY:

4. With a letter dated May 19, 1959, the City Attorney submitted the following instruments:

- a. Letter from Hi-Shear Rivet Tool Co. dated May 5, 1959, requesting approval of assignment of Buttress & McClellan's

- interest in a 4-acre parcel adjoining Hi-Shear lease;
  - b. Assignment of Buttress & McClellan's interest in said 4-acre parcel to Hi-Shear;
  - c. Resolution approving said Assignment.
- The City Attorney recommended that "the Resolution approving said assignment be adopted by the Council. The City Manager concurs in my recommendation".

In reply to a question from the Council, the City Attorney said he recommended this assignment, saying no harm will occur to the City thereby.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3688

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE APPROVING THE ASSIGNMENT OF A LEASE ON  
THE AIRPORT FROM BUTTRESS AND MCCLELLAN, INC.,  
ET AL TO HI-SHEAR RIVET TOOL COMPANY.

Councilman Bradford wanted to know what the property would be used for.

The City Attorney said he did not recall the original lease, but would look it up if the Council wished.

Councilman Drale moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3688 on the recommendation of the City Attorney.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

1. The City Manager said that as authorized by the City Council, he had contacted a well-known appraiser in the field of appraising commercial property, and as he had indicated to the Council at the time that he thought the price would be high, and it was. He said the appraiser has indicated that it would cost us \$1750 to get an appraisal of the auditorium and the adjoining office building. The man is well qualified but he thought this price was high.

Mayor Isen agreed, and thought we should have an idea of what we would get for the property before we paid such a fee. After the bids are in, if we want to get an idea of whether or not they are fair bids, the Council could decide about this.

A communication the City Manager had handed the Council on this was ordered filed as a matter of record.

In reply to a question, the City Manager said we are going ahead with bids on the property.

2. The Director of Public Works said there is a sump in Don Wilson's Tract 2228 which will be next to the boulevard, and Mr. Wilson has asked to put a 6' block wall around the sump instead of a wire fence.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the request.

Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley.

Councilman Jahn said our sump fencing ordinance required that the fences go below the surface of the ground for a depth sufficient to insure against washouts, etc. He noted that this foundation is going to be only 10" deep.

The Director of Public Works said the permit would have to be approved by the Building Department.

Councilman Drale amended his motion to require approval of the fence by the Building Dept.

Amendment accepted in the second to the motion.

Councilman Jahn asked if Mr. Wilson would agree to go to the depth required, and the Director of Public Works said he would ask that he do so.

Councilman Drale thought that the Director of Public Works understood Councilman Jahn's request, and made it a part of his motion.

This was accepted in the second to the motion.

Councilman Beasley said he would vote for this because it is on a street, but that something should be done to keep children off the top of the wall.

The Director of Public Works said he would suggest that a triangular block be used on top of the wall.

The Mayor said this would be under the jurisdiction of the Director of Public Works.

There were no objections, and the motion was ordered carried.

3. The Assistant City Manager said he had been directed to set up a meeting of the Airport Committee of the Council with the Director of Finance, the Airport Manager, and himself to discuss the affairs of the Airport. He asked for a suggestion as to the time and date.

It was agreed to have the meeting at 9:00 P. M. Friday, May 22, in Councilman Jahn's office.

4. The Director of Finance told the Council he had submitted a proposed concessions agreement to the Council last week, and asked if they had any opinions or suggestions on it.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen ordered this back on the Agend for next week.

5. The City Attorney showed the Council the application to the FAA for the removal of the restrictions on the Airport, and said Mr. Hall intends to go to Washington on Thursday. He said the application had been approved by the District Office, but not yet by the Regional office, at least it had not yesterday.

6. Councilman Beasley said the Transportation Committee of the Council has been meeting with the Supt. of the Bus Dept. and the Asst. City Manager in an attempt to find some way to eliminate the deficit which we face each year in the bus department. He thought that for the past 9 months, this was about \$42,000. He said they are trying to do this by eliminating some of the fringe services we give now. There is no intention to eliminate bus service, and they hope to give really better service to the City. He thought this would come up again at Budget time. He wanted our people to know they will not be inconvenienced.

7. Councilman Beasley referred to the precedent set by the "Kathy Fiscus" law, and suggested that the filmy plastic bags used by cleaners carry a printed notice advising parents of the danger to children playing with the bags. He said 3 children have died in the Los Angeles area from playing with these this spring. He suggested that we consider an ordinance requiring the bags to bear either stickers or printing to advise the users of the danger.

Councilman Drale thought the idea an excellent one.

The Mayor asked the City Attorney to work up an ordinance on this and bring it here for study.

8. Councilman Blount said we have 6 ordinances setting up administrative commissions, and 5 of them require notice to the subject commission if a member plans to miss more than 3 consecutive meetings; the 6th ordinance, governing the Planning Commission, requires that notice be sent to the Council before such an absence, and that the Council approve the absence. Councilman Blount thought this to be preferable, and thought the other 5 ordinances should be changed to conform to this, and he so moved.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objections, so ordered.

9. Councilman Bradford returned to the Urgency Ordinance adopted here tonight. He asked the City Attorney why he could not simply add in the ordinance "to include printing companies with up to 500 HP motors".

The City Attorney said common municipal law would require us to

change the whole section. We could cut down this cost by re-doing the entire Land Use Ordinance, which is antiquated. When it is done, it should be cut into many more sections than it has now. He thought that Mr. Lynn, President of the Planning Commission, had talked to the Council about this but nothing concrete had been undertaken.

Councilman Bradford could not agree with the printing of these long ordinances over and over again.

Mayor Isen asked the City Attorney to make a study of this and give the Council a written opinion.

Councilman Bradford said he had voted for the ordinance presented tonight only because we already have printing houses in C-zones.

Mayor Isen asked the City Attorney to give the authorities he uses in his report on this to the Council.

10. Councilman Benstead asked why we do not have a sign on Torrance Airport which is visible for the fliers as they come in, saying people had told him they have trouble locating the field. He moved this be sent to the Airport Commission for their study and recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Mayor Isen suggested that a similar sign should be on the highway in front of the airport.

Councilman Jahn said some airports have their names painted on the runways.

There were no objections, and this was referred to the Airport Commission.

11. Councilman Benstead asked the Director of Public Works to see who had authorized the mutilation of the trees at 816 Crenshaw Blvd., and to give the Council a report on it at the next meeting.

12. Mayor Isen said that in the past the Council has been critical of areas and business houses not letting the public know that they are in Torrance, or for using names which give another impression. This criticism was meant to be constructive, and he asked to have this matter at hand spread in the Minutes with a copy to the Superior Optical Co., at 4010 Sepulveda Blvd. in Torrance.

Mayor Isen had with him a copy of an ad run in a South Bay area newspaper by this company, and he complimented them upon the entire ad, showing the Council the bull's-eye with Torrance in the center and clearly marked, and showing the outlying communities in relation to our City. He felt this was as it should be. The company is to be congratulated, and Mayor Isen suggested that other companies and commercial centers, etc., should do likewise. He thought the ads would greatly enhance the business of our merchants, and suggested that other business houses, and perhaps even the Chamber of Commerce could well adapt the 'bull's-eye' to more widespread use.

13. Mayor Isen said from time to time, the Council and he had agreed about the problems of our new streets and the paving of them. We have not seemed to get cooperation from the successful bidders on these projects, and the contractors have not always seemed to the Council to be doing right, but the Council members are not experts in this. The Mayor had taken Arlington St. from 190th to Del Amo, and to say he was shocked was to make an understatement. The street has cracks in it and the paving is really crumbling and it needs resurfacing. The materials in the pavement seem to have been inferior. The Council has had several discussions with the Director of Public Works about this, and the Mayor said he was advised it would cost many thousands of dollars to put this street into repair. The Mayor thought the Council and he would be derelict in their duty if a complete investigation is not made, with a full report coming here. The street has been used as a drag racing strip, and there are marks for this use. He did not know how much racing had been done there, or under what conditions, but he asked that the Police Dept. check this. There are many questions about this

street, Mayor Isen said, and they must be answered. He wanted to know whether the contractor had abided by the contract and specifications; whether there were any inspections made; who made them and when; whether the City received what it paid for; and why that street is in the shape it is in now; and how much we paid for the work. He thought that an investigation similar to this should be made of the streets constructed by us during the past 3 years, mentioning Lomita Boulevard, Carson, etc. Mayor Isen asked that the new Director of Public Works make this a #1 priority item and report back to the Council on this so the Council can go on from there. He said we need the benefit of technical and expert findings.

Councilman Jahn agreed with the Mayor, and suggested that the Director of Public Works get cores of this street and some of the others and analyze the cores and report to the Council; he suggested that if the files show who made the inspection and the dates of any inspections, that should be included in the report. He knew this would take some time.

Mayor Isen did not think this could wait.

Councilman Beasley said he had heard rumors of short weights, etc., on a City street some months ago, and for that reason had spent considerable time on a street project and reported to the Assistant City Manager, C. L. Bone, about it; Mr. Bone had assured him at that time of the steps which would be taken on inspection and weight slips, etc. He said he agreed with the Mayor.

Councilman Benstead agreed also, and suggested that everyone on the Council and in City Government ride up that section of Arlington.

14. Councilman Drale moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P. M.



A. H. Bartlett, City Clerk of the City of  
Torrance, California

APPROVED:



Mayor of the City of Torrance